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FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY™

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Hawaii

This outline describes major sources of information about families from Hawaii. As you read this outline, study the **United States Research Outline 30972**, which will help you understand terminology and the contents and uses of genealogical records.

RECORDS OF THE FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY™

The Family History Library has many of the records listed in this outline. The library's major holdings of Hawaii records include census, genealogy, land, probate, and vital records.

Some of the sources described in this outline list the Family History Library's book, microfilm, and microfiche numbers. These are preceded by *FHL*, the abbreviation for *Family History Library*. You can use these numbers to locate materials in the library and to order microfilm and microfiche at Family History Centers™.

FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY CATALOG™

The library's records are listed in the Family History Library Catalog™ found at the library and at each Family History Center™. To find a record, look in the locality search of the catalog for:

- The *place* where your ancestor lived:

UNITED STATES - CENSUS

HAWAII - GENEALOGY

HAWAII, MAUI - VITAL RECORDS

HAWAII, MAUI, KALAUPAPA - CHURCH RECORDS

- The *record type* you want, such as:

UNITED STATES - CENSUS

HAWAII - GENEALOGY

HAWAII, MAUI - VITAL RECORDS

HAWAII, MAUI, KALAUPAPA - CHURCH RECORDS

The section headings in this outline match the names of record types used in the catalog.

ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES

The following archives, libraries, and societies have collections or services helpful for genealogical research.

- Hawaii State Archives
Iolani Palace Grounds
Honolulu, HI 96813
Telephone: 808-586-0329
Fax: 808-586-0330
- National Archives—Pacific Region (San Bruno)
1000 Commodore Drive
San Bruno, CA 94066
Telephone: 415-876-9009
Fax: 415-876-9233
- Hawaiian Historical Society
560 Kawaiahao Street
Honolulu, HI 96813
Telephone: 808-537-6271
- Hawaii State Library
478 South King Street
Honolulu, HI 96813
Telephone: 808-586-3500
Fax: 808-586-3584
- Hawaii Chinese History Center
111 North King Street Room 410
Honolulu, HI 96817
Telephone: 808-521-5948
- Bishop Museum Library
1525 Bernice Street
Honolulu, HI 96817-0916
Telephone: 808-848-4148
Fax: 808-845-4133
- Daughters of the American Revolution
Aloha Chapter House
1914 Makiki Heights Drive
Honolulu, HI 96822

This library has the Carter Collection of Hawaiian, business records, newspapers, and Japanese-Hawaiian publications.

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- University of Hawaii
Hamilton Library, Hawaii Collection
2550 The Mall
Honolulu, HI 96822
Telephone: 808-956-7214, 808-956-7205
Fax: 808-956-5968

A helpful directory of Hawaiian libraries is Arlene D. C. Luster, *A Directory of Libraries and Information Sources in Hawaii and the Pacific Islands* (Honolulu: Hawaii Library Association, 1972; FHL book 996.9 J54L, film 1321388 item 8).

Computer Networks and Bulletin Boards

Computers with modems can be useful tools for obtaining information from selected archives and libraries. In a way, computer networks themselves serve as a library. The Internet, certain computer bulletin boards, and commercial on-line services help family history researchers:

- Locate other researchers
- Post queries
- Send and receive e-mail
- Search large databases
- Search computer libraries
- Join in computer chat and lecture sessions

You can find computerized research tips and information about ancestors from Hawaii in a variety of sources at local, state, national, and international levels. The list of sources is growing rapidly. Most of the information is available at no cost.

Addresses on the Internet change frequently. As of April 1997, the following sites are important gateways linking you to many more network and bulletin board sites:

- USGenWeb
<http://www.usgenweb.com/>
A cooperative effort by many volunteers to list genealogical databases, libraries, bulletin boards, and other resources available on the Internet for each county, state, and country.
- Roots-L
<http://www.rootsweb.com/roots-l/usa/>
A useful list of sites and resources. Includes a large, regularly-updated research coordination list.

For further details about using computer networks, bulletin boards, and news groups for family history research, see the *United States Research Outline* (30972), 2nd ed., "Archives and Libraries" section.

FamilySearch®

The Family History Library and some Family History Centers have computers with FamilySearch®.

FamilySearch is a collection of computer files containing several million names. FamilySearch is a good place to begin your research. Some of the records come from compiled sources; some have been automated from original sources.

Computers with FamilySearch do *not* have access to computer on-line services, networks, or bulletin boards. However, those services are available at many public libraries, college libraries, and private locations.

BIOGRAPHY

The Hawaii State Archives has a biographical file of published and manuscript information. A representative biographical encyclopedia is John William Siddall, *Men of Hawaii* (Honolulu: Honolulu Star-Bulletin, Ltd., 1917; FHL book 996.9 D3m; vol.1 on film 1320605 item 5, vol. 4 on film 1697869 item 4, vol. 5 on film 1000163).

A more modern source of biographical information is Henry Pratt Judd, *Men and Women of Hawaii: 1954* (Honolulu: Business Consultants, 1954; FHL book 996.9 D3mw).

CEMETERIES

There is no major statewide collection or index of cemetery records for Hawaii. However, the Family History Library has detailed reports of burials between 1861 and 1892 for the islands of Oahu, Hawaii, Maui, Kauai, and Molokai (FHL film 295830 item 2). If your ancestor was a veteran and was buried in Hawaii, you may wish to write to:

National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific
2177 Puowaina Dr.
Honolulu, HI 96813
Telephone: 808-541-1427
Fax: 808-541-3546

CENSUS

Federal census records are available at the Family History Library, the National Archives, and regional offices of the National Archives. The *United States Research Outline* provides more detailed information about these records.

The Family History Library has the U.S. federal censuses of Hawaii for 1900, 1910, and 1920. Soundex (phonetic) indexes are available for the 1900 and 1920 censuses. The 1910 Federal Census has been published (FHL book 996.9 X22h 1910).

In addition to the federal censuses, colonial censuses exist for some portions of Hawaii for 1866, 1878,

1890, and 1896. The 1878 census is for Hilo only, and the 1896 is for the island of Oahu only. The 1890 and 1896 censuses are the most complete. They give the name, age, sex, and birthplace of every person. The 1878, 1890, and 1896 censuses are available at the Hawaii State Archives and the Family History Library (FHL films 1010681-88).

The Hawaii State Archives also has two "census files," 1840 to 1866 and 1847 to 1866, which contain miscellaneous records such as school census, population lists, and vital record summaries (FHL film 1009896 item 1-2 has records for 1840-1866).

CHURCH RECORDS

Between 1820 and 1850, missionaries of many churches visited Hawaii. By 1900 the largest religious groups in the islands were The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS), Congregational (United Church of Christ), Presbyterian, and Roman Catholic. Later, the Buddhists became a major group.

Histories of Buddhists and other religious groups are available. An excellent introduction to this subject is John F. Mulholland, *Hawaii's Religions* (Rutland, Vt.: Charles E. Tuttle Co., 1970; FHL book 996.9 K2m).

The Family History Library has extensive collections of mission and temple records for the LDS Church, including an index of memberships, 1850 to 1961, on 9 microfilms.

Buddhist records are kept at the individual Buddhist temples. Addresses of other major denominations include:

Congregational

Congregational Library
14 Beacon Street
Boston, MA 02108
Telephone: 617-523-0470
Fax: 617-523-0470

Presbyterian

Presbyterian Historical Society
425 Lombard Street
Philadelphia, PA 19147-1516
Telephone: 215-627-1852
Fax: 215-627-0509

Roman Catholic

Diocese of Honolulu, Chancery Office
1184 Bishop Street
Honolulu, HI 96813
Telephone: 808-533-1791
Fax: 808-521-8428

COURT RECORDS

Major Hawaii courts that kept records of genealogical value were established as follows:

1848- *District courts* have jurisdiction over minor pres. civil and criminal cases.

1848- *Circuit courts* have jurisdiction over major pres. civil and criminal cases, juvenile cases, probate cases, and divorces.

The Family History Library has circuit court divorce records from 1849 to 1915. Other circuit court records are available at the various county courthouses. The following records are available at the Hawaii State Archives:

- Divorces 1848-1915
- Equity files 1851-1914
- Criminal cases . . . 1848-1914
- Minutes 1848-1960
- Civil cases 1848-1916

1800s- *Supreme court* is a statewide appellate court. pres.

DIRECTORIES

Directories of heads of households have been published for some cities in Hawaii. For example, the Hawaii State Library has Honolulu directories from 1898, and telephone books dating from 1943. The Family History Library has Honolulu directories for 1917, 1938, 1940-41, 1959-60, 1963-64, and 1977 (FHL book 996.93 E4p; films 1759763-778). Directories for 1917 for the major cities and various islands are on FHL film 962960.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION

Immigrants

Less than 1 percent of Hawaii's population is pure-blooded Hawaiian. Many immigrant groups originally came as contract laborers to work in the sugar fields. The Chinese began arriving in 1852, followed by the Portuguese in 1878, the Japanese in 1884, Koreans in 1903, and Filipinos in 1906. Those of Japanese descent presently constitute about 30 percent of the total population, and are the largest ethnic group in Hawaii. American missionaries from New England started coming in 1820, but the number of Americans was not significant until about 1875.

An especially helpful history of the many ethnic groups in Hawaii is Eleanor C. Nordyke, *The Peopling of*

Hawaii (Honolulu: University Press of Hawaii, 1989; FHL book 996.9 W2n). Family History Library records of ethnic groups are listed in the FHLC under the subject heading HAWAII - MINORITIES. There are published histories for the Japanese and Filipinos, and annotated bibliographies for the Chinese and Koreans.

Records

The major port of entry to Hawaii is Honolulu. The names of early passengers and the ships they came on are indexed in Bernice Judd, *Voyages to Hawaii Before 1860*, Reprint (Honolulu: University Press of Hawaii, 1974; FHL book 996.9 W3j).

The Family History Library and the Hawaii State Archives have 72 microfilms of passenger lists and indexes for the years 1843 to 1900, beginning with (FHL film 1002794). On these films there are separate indexes for the Chinese, Japanese, and Portuguese, and a general index for the rest of the passengers. The Hawaii State Archives and the Family History Library also have other types of records for pre-1900 Chinese immigrants, including entry permits, passports, and labor permits.

The Family History Library and the Office of the Consulate General of Portugal in Honolulu have more than 70 microfilms of passenger lists of Portuguese immigrants for the years 1878 to 1913. The Family History Library and the Hawaiian Sugar Planters' Association in Aiea, Hawaii, have 85 microfilms of passenger lists and indexes of Filipinos for the years 1906 to about 1977. There are also records at the Family History Library of Japanese and Korean immigrants to Hawaii.

GAZETTEERS

Two helpful sources for finding the names of early towns and geographical features are:

United States. Board on Geographic Names.

Hawaiian Islands: Official Standard Names.

Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1956. (FHL book 996.9 E5U; film 1033989.) Use of this book requires geological survey maps.

Pukui, Mary Kawena. *Place Names of Hawaii.*

Honolulu: University Press of Hawaii, 1974. (FHL book 996.9 E2p.)

GENEALOGY

Most archives, historical societies, and genealogical societies have special collections and indexes of genealogical value. These must usually be searched in person. You may want to write to the Hawaii

State Archives for information about its collection of manuscript genealogies.

An important manuscript collection of compiled genealogies for Hawaii is William A. Cole's *Cole-Jensen Collection*. This consists of 51 binders and folders of oral genealogy transcripts collected from Polynesians of Hawaii, New Zealand, Samoa, Tahiti, and the Cook Islands, microfilmed in 1984. The Hawaiian genealogies comprise three of nine microfilms (beginning on FHL film 1358001). The original materials no longer exist as an intact collection.

A major published genealogical collection is Edith Kawelohea McKinzie, *Hawaiian Genealogies: Extracted from Hawaiian Language Newspapers*. 2 vols. (Honolulu: Brigham Young University-Hawaii, 1983-6; FHL book 996.9 D2m). The FHLC also lists several sources on Hawaiian nobility under HAWAII - NOBILITY.

HISTORY

The following important events in the history of Hawaii affected political boundaries, record keeping, and family movements.

Early The islands were ruled by a succession of royal families but were not united under one ruler until 1810.

1778 Captain James Cook of the British Navy arrived and named the islands the Sandwich Islands.

1820 Protestant missionaries from New England brought Christianity to Hawaii.

1830s- Thousands of settlers and laborers came to
1890s Hawaii, mostly from the Orient.

1894 The Republic of Hawaii was established after the Monarchy was dethroned in 1893.

1898 Hawaii was annexed by the United States.

1900 The Territory of Hawaii was established.

1959 Hawaii attained statehood.

An especially helpful source for studying the history of Hawaii is Ralph S. Kuykendall, *The Hawaiian Kingdom*, 3 vols. (Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 1966-1968; FHL book 996.9 H2kr; vol. 1 on film 1321394 item 2).

LAND AND PROPERTY

Prior to 1840, land in Hawaii belonged to the king and the chiefs. There were no titles to land, and allotments could be taken away at any time. The Constitution in 1840 stated that the land belonged to the king but that it was not his personal property. The chiefs and other

tenants were recognized collectively as co-owners of the land under the king's management.

Numerous foreigners eventually settled in the islands and began to dispute the king's ownership of all lands. This led to the establishment in 1845 of the Board of Commissioners to Quiet Land Titles, known as the Land Commission. By decision of the king and his chiefs, the king was given his own property and the remainder was divided equally among the government, the chiefs, and the tenants. This was the most important event in the distribution of land in Hawaii and is known as the Great Mahele.

To acquire ownership of land, an individual made a claim to the Land Commission. If approval was granted, the claimant received an award, which he then presented to the Minister of the Interior, who issued a Royal Patent. The Royal Patent gave the individual sole ownership of his land once he paid an assessment of cash or land to the government. The Hawaii State Archives has microfilm copies of many of these records. It also has a "Land File" of letters and documents dating from the 1830s.

The Family History Library has microfilm copies of the:

- Award books (1836-55)
- Patents (1847-1961)
- Foreign testimonies (1846-62)
- Native registers (1846-48)
- Native testimonies (1844-54)

These records and subsequent land records are located at:

Bureau of Conveyances
1151 Punchbowl Street Room 123
Honolulu, HI 96813
Telephone: 808-587-0151
Fax: 808-587-0136

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 2867
Honolulu, HI 96803

The Family History Library has the Bureau of Conveyance deeds (1844-1900) and deed indexes (1845-1917) on 108 microfilms.

The following index and publications may be helpful:

Office of the Commissioner of Public Lands of the Territory of Hawaii. *Indices of Awards Made by the Board of Commissioners to Quiet Land Titles in the Hawaiian Islands*. Honolulu: Hawaii Territorial Office, 1929. (FHL film 1321397 item 2.) This includes records of individuals receiving lands from approximately 1848 to 1890.

Chinen, Jon J. *The Great Mahele: Hawaii's Land Division of 1848*. Honolulu: The University Press of Hawaii, 1974. (FHL book 996.9 A1 no. 9.)

Chinen, Jon J. *Original Land Titles in Hawaii*. N.p., 1961. (FHL book 996.9 R2c.)

MAPS

An extensive collection of maps is at the University of Hawaii Library. The Family History Library does not have a large map collection for Hawaii. Several historical books on Hawaii contain some individual maps of interest. The best collection presently available is Jessie H. Lindsey, *District and County Guide of the Territory of Hawaii* (N.p., 1947; FHL book 996.9 E51; film 924462 item 3).

MILITARY RECORDS

The *U.S. Military Records Research Outline* (34118) provides more information on federal military records and search strategies.

Federal military records are found at the Family History Library, the National Archives, and other federal archives. The *United States Research Outline* provides more information about these records.

To begin your search for Hawaiian military records, contact the Hawaii State Archives for the following:

- *Pre-1895*. Service records of Hawaiian royal guards, militia units, and navy.
- *Civil War (1861-65)*. Card list of deceased veterans.
- *1894-98*. List of members of the citizens guards of the Republic of Hawaii.
- *Spanish-American War (1898-1900)*. Card list of deceased veterans.

World War I (1917-1918)

Contact the Hawaii State Archives for records of Hawaiians who served in World War I and a card list of deceased veterans.

World War I draft registration cards for men age 18 to 45 may list address, birth date, birthplace, race, nationality, citizenship, and next of kin. Not all registrants served in the war. For registration cards for Hawaii, see:

United States. Selective Service System. Hawaii, *World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918*. National Archives Microfilm Publications, M1509. Washington, D.C.: National Archives, 1987-1988. (On FHL films beginning with 1452025.)

To find an individual's draft card, it helps to know his name and residence at the time of registration. The cards are arranged alphabetically by county, within the county by draft board, and then alphabetically by surname within each draft board.

Most counties had only one board; large cities had several. A map showing the boundaries of individual draft boards is available for most large cities. Finding an ancestor's street address in a city directory will help you in using the draft board map. There is an alphabetical list of cities that are on the map. For a copy of this map see:

United States. Selective Service System. *List of World War One Draft Board Maps*. Washington, D.C.: National Archives. (FHL film 1498803.)

World War II (1941-1945)

Records of Japanese evacuees during World War II are at the National Archives. They include case files, family cards, and vital statistics.

NATURALIZATION AND CITIZENSHIP

Citizenship could be granted during the royal era by a Letter of Denization. Two kinds of letters were issued. One gave a person all rights of citizenship except the right to vote. It was mostly issued to representatives of Hawaii in foreign countries, most of whom had never been in Hawaii. The other gave a person all rights of citizenship including the right to vote. It was for persons who were eligible to become naturalized, and was usually issued to new arrivals who planned to reside in the islands. These records are located at the Hawaii State Archives. The Family History Library has microfilm copies of *Letters of Denization*, 1846-1898, (FHL film 1017113 items 1-4, 6).

The supreme court also issued *Naturalization Records*, 1874-1904. These records are located at the Hawaii State Archives for the years 1874 to 1904 and include petitions for 1900 and 1904 (FHL film 1015654). They are partially indexed. No naturalizations were issued from 1895 to 1900.

Under the Republic of Hawaii, some individuals who were not citizens of Hawaii were granted Special Rights of Citizenship but this did not grant them naturalization. These records are at the Hawaii State Archives. The Family History Library has a *List of British Subjects who have received Special Rights of Citizenship* [ca. 1892 to 1898] (FHL film 1017113 item 5).

All persons who were citizens of the Republic of Hawaii on 12 August 1898 were declared citizens of

the United States. For naturalization records after September 1906, contact the following:

Immigration and Naturalization Service
595 Ala Moana Blvd.
Honolulu, HI 96813
Telephone: 808-532-3721

NEWSPAPERS AND OBITUARIES

The Family History Library and the Hawaii State Archives have the newspaper, *Nupepa Kuokoa*, (Honolulu, Hawaii) 1861 to 1927, which includes genealogies (Honolulu: University of Hawaii Library; Archives of Hawaii, 19—; FHL films 1020698-729). A partial index to births, marriages, and deaths in Hawaiian newspapers prior to 1950 is also at the Family History Library and the Hawaii State Archives (FHL films 1002818-23).

An alphabetical list of English and Hawaiian language newspapers from 1834 to 1948 is found in Esther T. Mookini, *The Hawaiian Newspapers* (Honolulu: Topgallant Publishing Co., 1974; FHL book 996.9 B3m).

PERIODICALS

The Hawaiian Historical Society publishes *The Hawaiian Journal of History*, 1967-- (FHL book 996.9 B2h). There are indexes to volumes 1-10, 11-20 (FHL book 996.9 B2h index).

PROBATE RECORDS

The circuit courts, from the time they were established, have kept probate records of Hawaii. Some records date from as early as the 1840s. No probate records exist for earlier eras, except for a few of the royal families. The Hawaii State Archives and the Family History Library have 141 microfilms of probate records from 1845 to 1900 and indexes from 1814 to 1917 (beginning on FHL film 1010689). Additional records are at the various county courthouses.

VITAL RECORDS

Early Birth and Death Records

Local government authorities and clergymen recorded some pre-1860 birth and death records. You will find these at the Hawaii State Archives, the Department of Health, and the Daughters of the American Revolution Library in Honolulu. The Family History Library has about 20 sets of these on 100 microfilms. Existing records for the city of Honolulu, for instance, date from 1841 to 1896. The name indexes of these may be in English, but the records are usually in Hawaiian.

Delayed Birth Registration

Since 1911, a person born in Hawaii, whose birth was not registered, could apply for a delayed certificate of birth. The Family History Library has microfilms of delayed birth records dating from 1859 to 1903, with indexes from 1859 to 1938, (FHL films beginning with film 1205949) and microfilms for 1904-1920 (FHL films beginning with film 1853012).

Early Marriage Records

Early collections of marriage records are at the Hawaii State Archives, the State Department of Health, and the Daughters of the American Revolution Library in Honolulu. The Hawaii State Archives collection extends from 1826 to 1929, with an index from 1826 to 1910 (FHL film 1031145). The Family History Library has microfilms of many of these valuable records.

Divorces

Divorce proceedings are usually recorded in the circuit court records. The Family History Library has microfilms of numerous circuit court divorce records from 1849 to 1915 (FHL films 1015620-52). A collection of additional pre-1900 divorce records is also at the Hawaii State Archives.

State registration of divorces did not begin until 1950. The Family History Library does not have these records.

State Records

Statewide registration of births and marriages began in 1842. Registration of deaths began in 1859. Few records exist until 1896, however, and registration was not generally complied with until 1929. The Family History Library has microfilms of:

- Births, 1896-1919 and indexes 1896-1949
- Marriages, 1884-1919 and indexes 1909-1949
- Deaths, 1896-1919 and indexes 1896-1949
- Burials, 1861-1892

You can obtain copies of state records from the 1860s to the present by writing to:

Research and Statistics Office
State Department of Health
P.O. Box 3378
1250 Punchbowl Street
Honolulu, HI 96801
Telephone: 808-586-4533

The current fees for obtaining copies of the state's records are listed in *Where to Write for Vital Records: Births, Deaths, Marriages, and Divorces* (Hyattsville, Md.: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, March 1993 (FHL book 973 V24WV). Copies of this

booklet are at the Family History Library and many Family History Centers.

Additional Sources

Important vital record indexes have been compiled from names found in several Hawaii newspapers. See the section on "Newspapers" for further information.

FOR FURTHER READING

More detailed information about records and research in Hawaii is in the following:

Conrad, Agnes C. "Family History Sources in Hawaii," *Hawaii Library Association Journal*, 33 June 1974, p. 3-10, Honolulu: Hawaii Library Association. (FHL book 996.9 A1 no.21.) A 1980 version of this information is on microfiche 6085832.

Eichholz, Alice, ed. *Ancestry's Red Book: American State, County, and Town Sources*. Rev. ed. Salt Lake City: Ancestry, 1992. (FHL book 973 D27rb 1992; computer number 594021.) Contains bibliographies and background information on history and ethnic groups. Also contains maps and tables showing when each county was created.

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

The Family History Library welcomes additions and corrections that will improve future editions of this outline. Please send your suggestions to:

Publications Coordination
Family History Library
35 N. West Temple Street
Salt Lake City, UT 84150-3400
USA

We appreciate the archivists, librarians, and others who have reviewed this outline and shared helpful information.

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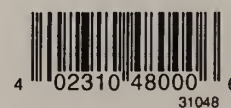
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Salt Lake City, UT 84150-3400
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Fax: 801-240-2494

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